

Miss AMERICA

CHAPTER IV

"VANISHING SPIES!"



The story thus far...

MISS AMERICA, SENT TO BUENOS AIRES TO LOCATE A MISSING FEDERAL AGENT AND HIS EXPOSE LIST OF ESCAPED NAZIS, DISCOVERS A DIABOLICAL NAZI PLOT TO GAIN POSSESSION OF A MICRO-FILM FORMULA FOR A SUN-RAY CONDENSER MORE DESTRUCTIVE THAN THE ATOM BOMB! IN A FURIOUS FIGHT WITH GUNMEN, LED BY REX, A NAZI AGENT INTENT ON FOMENTING WORLD WAR III, SHE IS STRUCK DOWN AND THE BRACELET CONTAINING THE SECRET FORMULA ON MICRO-FILM IS STOLEN! NOW, AS REX IS ABOUT TO LEAVE THE DRESSING ROOM OF CAFE-SINGER ELISE WINTERS WHERE THE STRUGGLE HAD OCCURRED----



AND MISS AMERICA IS FREE AT LAST, TO PURSUE HER EXCITING QUEST!

ELISE WINTERS IS IN HER DRESSING ROOM, SHOT! CALL A DOCTOR AT ONCE!



A CAR SPEEDING AWAY! MAY BE PERFECTLY INNOCENT, BUT I CAN'T OVERLOOK ANYTHING ESPECIALLY WITH THAT DEADLY MICRO-FILM FORMULA AT STAKE! SO HERE GOES!



SOON, ON THE HIGHWAY----

THERE'S ANOTHER CAR FURTHER AHEAD! LOOKS LIKE THIS ONE'S PURSUING IT! I CAN'T TELL WHO IS IN THEM, BUT I'VE A HUNCH REX AND HIS HENCHMEN ARE IN THE FIRST, BECAUSE THEY HAD MORE TIME TO GET AWAY!



FIRST CAR'S TURNED. CAN'T SEE IT BEHIND THAT HIGH EMBANKMENT! THE SECOND ONE'S GAINING! SOMETHING INTERESTING SHOULD HAPPEN!



AS THE PURSUING CAR TAKES THE TURN, ITS DRIVER FIRES AT THE TIRES OF THE CAR AHEAD!



AS BULLET-RIDDLED TIRES INSTANTLY FLATTEN, THE FIRST CAR SPINS DIZZILY. THEN---



IT'S HAPPENED SOONER THAN I THOUGHT! THIS MAY BE THE END OF REX AND HIS CHUMS!

QUITTING THE AIR, MISS AMERICA SILENTLY STALKS HER QUARRY AFOOT----



SOMEONE'S COMING OUT OF THAT CAR! I'LL GET HIM BEFORE HE SNAGS THE BRACELET! THAT'S UNDOUBTEDLY WHAT HE'S AFTER!

IT'S PETER! HANDSOME, GLIB PETER. ONLY HE CAN'T TALK HIS WAY OUT OF THIS SO EASILY!



TALK HIS WAY OUT? FOR THE MOMENT, PETER IS PRACTICALLY STUNNED! THE WRECKED CAR IS EMPTY!



NO ONE'S IN THERE ???

YES, IT LOOKS AS IF WE'D BOTH SLIPPED UP THIS TIME, DOESN'T IT?

HUH? OH, YOU'RE MISS AMERICA, AREN'T YOU? YOU SAW WHAT HAPPENED?

I SAW YOU CHASING THAT CAR AND SHOOT THE TIRES. WHOEVER WAS IN THERE MUST HAVE REALIZED THEY WERE BEING FOLLOWED---



---JUMPED OUT AND GOT AWAY WHILE BEING HIDDEN BY THE EMBANKMENT. YOU SHOT AT AN **EMPTY** CAR. THAT'S THE ONLY EXPLANATION I CAN THINK OF. NOW YOU MAKE WITH THE EXPLANATIONS, ABOUT YOUR BUSINESS HERE! BUT FIRST---





I'LL TAKE YOUR GUN!

YOU *DO* TAKE A MAN BY SURPRISE! BUT I WASN'T GOING TO TURN THE GUN ON YOU, BELIEVE ME!



YOU STILL HAVEN'T EXPLAINED!

I'M PETER CARR, I WAS AT THE CAFE LUXURIA WITH A FRIEND, MADELEINE JOYCE. SHE WENT BACKSTAGE TO SEE ELISE WINTERS. AFTER SOME MINUTES I WENT BACK TOO AND SAW THREE MEN RUNNING AWAY. ONE LOOKED LIKE A MAN MISS JOYCE DESCRIBED AS HAVING ASSAULTED HER AT HER HOTEL.



SO I GAVE CHASE!

A LIKELY STORY! I NEVER DESCRIBED MY ASSAILANT TO HIM!

HOW DO I KNOW YOU WEREN'T AFTER A CERTAIN BRACELET CONTAINING A MICRO-FILM FORMULA? THOSE MEN HAD STOLEN A FORMULA FOR A SUN-RAY CONDENSER OF TERRIBLE DESTRUCTIVE POTENTIALITY!



WHAT? I KNOW NOTHING OF SUCH A FORMULA--- PLEASE TRUST ME! OH, *THAT'S* HOW YOU TRUST ME, EH? WITH A GUN IN MY RIBS!

NOW WALK TO YOUR CAR, WE'RE GOING FOR A LITTLE RIDE--- WITH *YOU* DRIVING!



WE'VE DRIVEN MORE THAN FIVE MILES OUT HOW AND WHEN DO WE END THIS RIDE?

WE END THIS-*NOW!* STOP THE CAR, AND GET OUT!



A MOMENT LATER----

COME BACK! I RENTED THAT CAR!

I NOTICED THE RENTAL AGENCY NAME ON IT. I'LL RETURN IT. HAPPY WALK BACK TO BUENOS AIRES! IT'S NOT LIKELY YOU'LL GET A LIFT ON THIS LONELY ROAD! OH, AND YOU MIGHT POSSIBLY NEED THIS!



GATCH!

WELL!

I WANT TO KEEP HIM FROM GETTING TO THE CITY TOO SOON AND POSSIBLY INTERFERING AGAIN. I DON'T TRUST HIM, BUT I CAN'T PUT HIM IN CUSTODY WITHOUT EVIDENCE!



BESIDES, RIGHT NOW I MUST FIND THE MEN WHO GOT THAT BRACELET! ELISE IS MY LINK TO LOCATING REX. GUESS I'D BETTER RETURN TO THE CAFÉ LUXURIA.



BUT AT THE CAFÉ A SHORT TIME LATER---

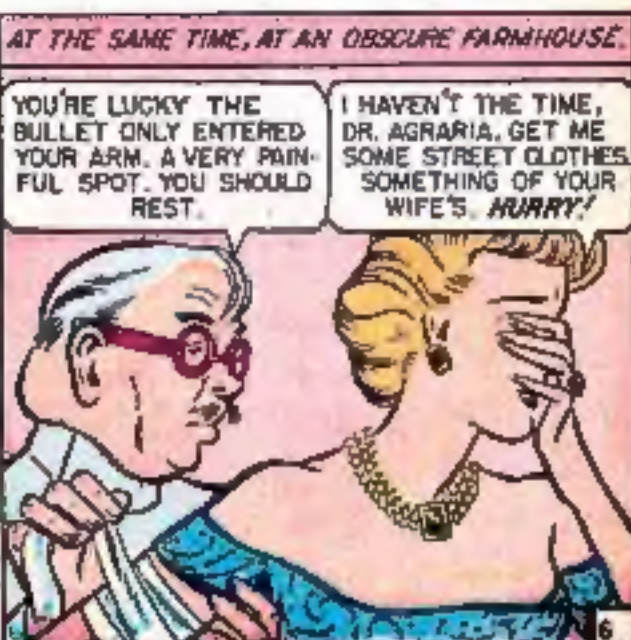
I CALLED THE DOCTOR, BUT THE SIGNORINA WINTERS WAS GONE!

THIS WINDOW WASN'T OPEN BEFORE. SHE MUST'VE MANAGED TO PICK HERSELF UP AND OUT THROUGH IT! SINCE ESCAPES HER PLAN, SHE WON'T GO HOME!



SOON----

BUT I'LL TRY HER HOME ANYWAY FOR A POSSIBLE LEAD TO REX'S WHEREABOUTS. THAT IS, AS SOON AS I CABLE COUNTERSPY HEADQUARTERS TO PICK UP MRS. VARNHAM, FOR SHE DID GIVE ME THE BRACELET ORIGINALLY!



AT THE SAME TIME, AT AN OBSCURE FARMHOUSE.

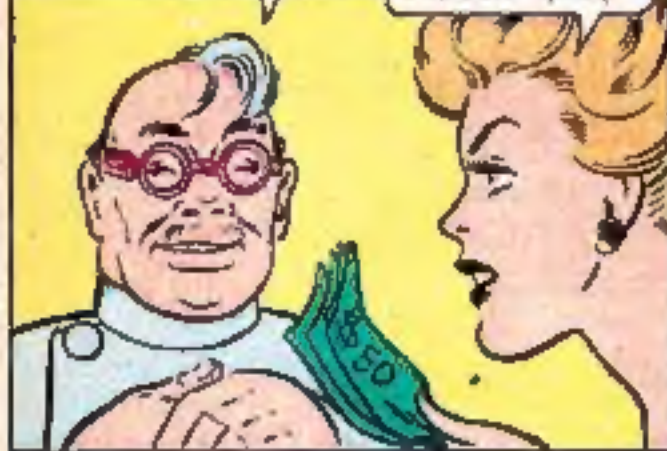
YOU'RE LUCKY THE BULLET ONLY ENTERED YOUR ARM. A VERY PAINFUL SPOT. YOU SHOULD REST.

I HAVEN'T THE TIME, DR. AGRARIA. GET ME SOME STREET CLOTHES. SOMETHING OF YOUR WIFE'S. HURRY!

NOT LONG AFTER---

OF COURSE I RUN A RISK
TAKING CARE OF THESE--
UH...GUN CASES AND NOT
REPORTING TO THE POLICE!

STOP WHINING! I
KNOW YOU WANT
MONEY. HERE'S
TWO HUNDRED
DOLLARS. I'M GOING
NOW. I'VE GOT IM-
PORTANT WORK!



---VERY IMPORTANT, INDEED! HMMM / THAT
COLD-BLOODED REX, LEAVING ME FOR DEAD
AND GRABBING THE BRACELET! WHEN I CATCH
HIM, I'LL LEAVE HIM FOR DEAD---BUT I'LL
BE SURE OF IT!



HE WAS CRAFTY ENOUGH NEVER TO TELL ME
THE LOCATION OF HIS HEADQUARTERS. BUT I
HAVE A WAY TO--- I **MUST** GET THAT BRACELET!
I CAN SELL IT FOR A **FORTUNE**! IF HE THINKS
THAT (---OH, I **DO** FEEL A BIT WEAK. PROBABLY
LOSS OF BLOOD---



WHILE AT ELISE'S APARTMENT---

TOUGH LUCK! I'VE LOOKED EVERYWHERE
AND NOT A SINGLE LEAD! WHAT A CAUTIOUS
GAL! SHE MUST HAVE **PLENTY** TO CONCEAL.
NOT EVEN AN ADDRESS BOOK!



I DOUBT WHETHER SHE'LL RETURN HERE. SHE
KNOWS I'M AFTER HER. AND SHE'S MOST
LIKELY AFTER REX ---THE DOOR BELL!
WHO CAN THAT BE?



WHO INDEED?

WHY DON'T THAT
DAME ANSWER?

SHE'D BETTER! IF
SHE WANTS TO LIVE!



WHO IS THIS SINISTER PAIR? AND WHAT IS
THEIR STAKE IN THE DEADLY INTRIGUE?
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